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EUROPEAN WAR NOW ON

Long Looked For Conflagration Breaks.

Russia, Germany, Austria, Italy, France and England Involved In Great Struggle.

The long looked for European war is on in earnest. The assassination of the Prince and Princess of Austria was the spark which started the conflagration that is destined to involve all Europe and possibly other nations of the world before it ends. Austria declared war on Serbia as a result of the assassination of her Prince and Princess. This brought Russia to the aid of her ally, Serbia, and Germany declared war on Serbia which quickly brought France and England into the conflict.

It will be the greatest war of modern times and no one can guess the outcome. The United States has issued a proclamation of neutrality, and is expected to care for the business of all the countries at war at the capitals of each of them. The events, hourly take place with such startling rapidity that it is difficult to keep up with such stirring times.

Germany has started an invasion of France and Russia is reported to have invaded Germany. Italy has declared her neutrality, but under her treaty obligations with Germany she will be compelled to take part.

Paris, Aug. 3.—Diplomatic relations between France and Germany were formally broken off today.

Berlin, Aug. 3.—The German emperor today sent orders to the German ambassador in Paris to demand his passports.

Paris, Aug. 3.—It was officially announced tonight that a German force had invaded France near Cirey.

Berlin, Aug. 3.—German border troops from Lublitz, Silesia today after a short skirmish with the Russians, took possession of Czenstochowa, in Russian Poland.

Benzin and Kalisz, in Russian Poland, also have been occupied by the Germans.

Czenstochowa is a city of 50,000 inhabitants, situated on the river Wythe, near the Silesian frontier.

Benzin is a coal and mining center. It has a population of over 20,000. Kalisz is the capital of the province of the same name. It is the most westerly city of Russian Poland. Its population is 20,000.

England has declared war on Germany following the refusal of the Germans to observe the neutrality of Belgium in the conflict now raging in Europe. Germany and Austria-Hungary are now arrayed in a bitter struggle with Russia, England, France, Serbia and Montenegro. The other nations of Europe are mobilizing their forces rapidly although they have not actually declared war. The feeling of unrest extends even to Japan, and the United States is now the only Power that is not liable to be involved in any way. The Germans are reported to have continued their invasion of Belgium in the march toward France. Due to the strict censorship little news of actual engagements has been obtained so far. In a speech to his Imperial Parliament Emperor William of Germany declared that he mobilized his troops with a heavy heart, but war had been forced upon his people.

All the power of the American Government, in co-operation with the financiers of the country was used yesterday to provide relief for the Americans stranded abroad. It is now planned to send \$2,500,000 in gold from the Treasury on the cruiser Tennessee. In addition the express companies and bankers will send between six and eight million dollars abroad to their agents at the same time. The most serious problem at present is to find vessels enough to bring the Americans home.

With emergency currency issued, the big problem confronting the business interests of this country is a solution of the import and export situation of the import and export situation.

union. To some extent this was simplified by England's announcement that she would guarantee all wheat shipments to her, and as a result the price of the staple advanced sharply. Thousands of Americans crowded the offices of the express and steamship companies in London in an effort to get checks cashed and secure passage to their own country.

Germany, in pushing its advance through Belgium, has met with strong opposition around Liege, where the Belgian force, according to official advices reaching Brussels, have repulsed the German army of the Meuse under Gen. Von Emmich. The Germans are reported to have lost several thousand in killed and wounded. Field Marshal Kitchener has been appointed Secretary of State for War in the British Cabinet, and will have under his direction the military campaign against Germany. The French troops have joined the Belgians in opposing the progress of Germany through Belgium, and it is reported that possibly Great Britain may send reinforcements.

VILLA AND CARRANZA WILL RENEW BREAK

Rebel General Declares His Independence of Chief.

El Paso Tex., Aug. 4.—Gen. Francisco Villa virtually has proclaimed his independence of the Carranza Government, according to reports brought here today by arrivals from all parts of Northern Mexico. Villa has begun reorganizing his army. Gen. Felipe Angeles Carranza's deposed Secretary of War, is in charge of the reorganization. A movement is on foot for the immediate distribution of lands. Carranza has not been informed, so far as is known. Arrivals from Aguas Calientes today told of forced loans being levied by the Constitutionalists from foreign merchants there. It was said that Gov. Alberto Guasites had attempted to raise \$500,000 gold from American, French and Syrian residents, but had failed because there was not that much in the whole district.

It was estimated by Americans coming from Villa's territory that five thousand recruits have been added to his ranks within the last two weeks. They have been armed with rifles supposed to have been smuggled across the line at this point.

A mobilization at Torreón of all troops in Gen. Villa's division was ordered to-night, according to Constitutional officials on the border. Eusebio Calzado, general manager of Villa's railways, said here that he had instructed his dispatchers to give troop trains preference over all other traffic.

It was predicted that within a week Villa would have approximately 25,000 men in Torreón.

This action was taken by observers here to indicate that the Northern leader was preparing for war with Carranza.

Torreón is acknowledged as the most strategic point of offense or defense in North Mexico. Villa is reported to be at a ranch near Chihuahua City.

CONFERENCE FAILS.

Salt Lake, Aug. 3.—(Via Laredo Tex., Aug. 4).—The Carranza commission, consisting of Gen. Lauro Villar and David Gutierrez Allende, was not delegated with the power to accede to the unconditional surrender not only of the capital and executive authority, but of the Federal army. These were the only terms upon which Gen. Carranza had agreed to receive them. On the contrary, the commission carried with them six conditions drawn by Carranza, which they were requested to insist upon. The Constitutionalists declined to accede to one of these conditions, declaring they were contrary to the plan of Guadalupe. The conditions asked by Carranza were:

First—The arrangement of an armistice and issue of instructions for immediate ceasing of hostilities, instructions to be delivered as soon as possible to all chiefs of the contending parties.

Second—Transmission of executive power by means of dissolution of the present Congress and the restoration of the Congress dissolved by Huerta.

PROGRESSIVES WILL MERGE

Join Progressives in Many Congressional Districts.

Roosevelt's Program Means Complete Revisal of Former Programme.

Washington, Aug. 5.—Consternation in the Progressive Congressional Committee followed the receipt today of a letter from George W. Perkins to Secretary Arthur R. Rupley confirming general impressions that the Progressives would actively cooperate, or even actually combine, with the Republicans. This decision is so diametrically at variance with the doctrine which the Progressive Congressmen have been preaching that they now feel they "have swallowed the hemlock" as Rupley expressed it. To virtually every one of the twenty Progressives in the House Perkins's letter means that the props have been knocked from under him in the campaign, and none knows whether others may not be "lashed from New York headquarters to support the Republican candidate in his district.

From the very outset of their careers in Congress the twenty Progressives have derided suggestions of reconciliation with the Republicans and have insisted that their party would retain its identity as a third political element in the country. Now they see their forces uniting with the Republicans under the Republican standard wherever Theodore Roosevelt deems it advisable.

The first shock came in an announcement from New York that Harvey D. Hinman would run for Governor as a Progressive, and also would be a candidate in the Republican party, backed by Roosevelt and his forces.

"What does this mean?" wrote Rupley to Perkins, in effect.

Then he went on to explain that in Pennsylvania the Progressives had declined to follow these tactics in the senatorial primary.

"If the Progressives now are to combine with the Republicans, as in New York," said Rupley, "we have indeed, swallowed the hemlock, in Pennsylvania."

To which Perkins replied that Col. Roosevelt had followed in New York the course that he thought wisest, and would adopt the same programme in all other States and subdivisions in which he considered it advisable. And in conclusion, said Perkins, the National Committee stood with Mr. Roosevelt, as must the rest of the party.

Luther Reimer Loses Life in Well By Black Damp.

Last Saturday afternoon Mr. Luther Reimer, who lived at Centertown while attempting to deepen his well lost his life and his son also came near being killed by the fumes of dynamite or black damp. Soon after a blast Reimer went into the well, but in a short time informed his father that he was sick and would have to come out. He let the rope down but the boy was too weak to hold on and his father went down and the rope around his body and he was drawn up by others. By this time he was so overcome by the fumes that he could not fasten the rope and after a vain effort to hold he fell back and when recovered a short time afterward by Mr. Jut Brown, who volunteered to go down for him, he was dead and could not be revived, although an auto was sent to Centertown City for a pulmotor.

Mr. Reimer who was a splendid citizen leaves a wife and several children. His burial took place at Centertown cemetery Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock and was largely attended.

A Correction.

Sometime ago this paper copied an article from Muhlenberg county concerning the prosecution of Possum Hunters in which the name of Will Kimbley occurred. The name should have been Will Kinley. We make this correction at the instance of Mrs. Ella B. Kimbley whose son is named Will Kimbley.

CALIFORNIA GOLD DAYS

Old Diary Tells Story of Rush.

Discovery Threw Army of Fortune Seekers Into Frenzy of Anticipation.

(By M. M. Quife, Supt. of the Wisconsin State Historical Society.)

Madison, Wis., Aug. 4.—One day in January 1848, a workman engaged in digging a mill race on the American River observed some yellow particles of metal glittering in the sand. Gathering a quantity of them, he took them to his employer, and together the two men subjected them to some rude tests which satisfied them that the shining grains were pure gold. Such was the discovery of gold in California. The secret could not be kept, although California was then so remote a place that several months passed before he outside world became aware of it. Scarcely had the news of a discovery been attended by more drastic consequences. It threw the civilized world into a fever of anticipation. It started throngs of fortune-seekers—cut throats, gamblers, laborers, physicians, farmers, preachers—on a mad race for California. It precipitated the great sectional crisis of 1850, the most serious our history between 1787 and 1861 and it compelled the Government to admit California to Statehood before ever she had been a territory.

An old diary, now in the possession of the Wisconsin Historical Society, portrays vividly the experiences of one Wisconsin band of Argonauts who crossed the continent in the summer of 1849 in search of the golden fleece. The fortune-seekers, five in number, were all residents of Madison, the capital of the youthful State. Their first step was to organize a company, equipped with appropriate officers and laws and regulations. The company, to which all contributed equally, then purchased the equipment for the long journey, the principal items being a heavy covered wagon and a six mule team. One interesting by-law provided that in addition to the company property each member must equip himself with "a good rifle, pistol and knife."

From early March until August the tedious journey lasted. The route led over rugged mountain ranges and through burning deserts, where men and horses alike were in danger of perishing from thirst. At one place "ten men and ten mules were barely sufficient to manage an empty wagon." This place, our diarist, with grim humor, decides to name the "Devil's Stairs." Another time a band of Crow Indians, bent on stampeding the mules of the party, raided the camp by night. But the affray passed off without loss to either party "except the powder and lead, which was wasted profusely by both."

More successful thieves were the coyotes, which stole the last pound of pork from the party, "when we were awake and had a good watchdog on guard and the pork lying within four feet of our heads."

No less than forty thousand gold-seekers crossed the plains this summer of 1849, and as many more reached California by water, either crossing the Isthmus of Panama or rounding Cape Horn. Hardship and privation awaited them all, dazzling fortunes the few and poverty, disease and death the many.

Our party of Argonauts was more fortunate than most, but even to this incident, which is only one of many observed by the diarist:

"A lone woman riding on a skeleton of a horse, and driving two cows that were but the shadow of what they once had been, when grazing quietly on the prairies of Illinois. The woman's dress consisted of what once might have been a decent covering, but at this time it was of a truth the evidence of things not seen."

The woman hailed from Illinois, and she with her decrepit five stock was all that remained of a husband, wife and three children, fifteen or twenty head of cattle, a wagon, and eight hundred dollars in money. Even so she was not disheartened, and begged only for advice as to what she should do. This was rendered freely

by everyone; no two of the advisors agreeing, however, the only result was the heightening of the poor woman's bewilderment, until at length our practical minded diarist suggested that they pass the hat which was promptly done. The writer concludes the incident by recording that he returned home "one ounce lighter of pocket, but none the poorer at heart."

The California gold rush was a gamble in which few won, but the stakes were high and men willingly took terrible chances. At the end of August the diary before us records hundreds of destitute emigrants were strolling up and down the river bank in quest of gold, knowing as little about prospecting for it "as they do about happiness or the common comforts of life." On the other hand the writer's party less than four weeks later took out \$842 worth of gold in a single day. The next day the forenoon was spent in repairing the dam; the afternoon yielded about \$250 in gold. This the treasurer carried to camp in a common washing pan, and setting it on the roof to dry, proceeded to forget about it. Someone else was more thoughtful, however, for in the morning when inquiry was made for the gold the pan and its contents had vanished.

FIRE DESTROYS W. O. KING LUMBER YARD

Mother Leaves Child in Cradle And It Is Burned To Death.

A 13 months old baby perished last night in a fire which swept thru three sections of the lumber yard of W. O. King & Co. The yard extends from Twenty-four to Twenty-sixth along Loomis Street. The loss is estimated at \$100,000.

The fire was discovered by James Pieck, watchman who resided with his family in a frame dwelling in the yard. He and his wife, Mrs. Mary Pieck, rushed out to turn in an alarm. Their 16 year old son James, ran to Loomis street and the river where the fireboat Joseph Medill is moored. In her haste Mrs. Pieck forgot her baby Mamie, who was asleep in a cradle. William Pieck, 9 years old, ran out with his brother.

The flames first were discovered in alley No. 3. When Pieck and his wife returned the fire had spread to alleys No. 4 and 5, and had completely enveloped their home. Mrs. Pieck became frantic and attempted to run back into the burning structure but was held by firemen.

Fanned by the wind, the flames ate their way through the piles of dry timber thirty feet in height, so fast that several calls were sent in by the first firemen to reach the scene. Fire Chief O'Connor responded and directed the firemen.

The flames leaped high in the air, illuminating the city for miles. Fire fans came from all parts of the city and automobiles were lined up in the streets for a radius of half a mile.

The fireboat played streams of water on the blaze from the south. Luckily the wind was from the east, and prevented the fire from spreading to other lumber stacks. It is believed the fire was caused by spontaneous combustion—Chicago Tribune.

NOTE—Mr. W. O. King is a native of Ohio county, a brother of Messrs. John and Dan King, of Hartford, and his many friends here will be sorry to learn of his loss.

Mrs. Wilson Ill.

Washington, Aug. 5.—While the President has been steering the nation through one of the most critical periods of its history, his wife has been dying. The tragic fact was admitted at the White House today. It was also said that there is little chance for Mrs. Wilson's recovery.

The condition of the patient became so grave yesterday that the absent members of the President's household were summoned to Washington. The last of them, Mrs. Francis Bowes Sayre, arrived this morning. Mrs. Margaret Wilson arrived last night.

Several consultations with eminent specialists have been resorted to by Dr. Cary Grayson, the White House physician, but these have not served to relieve Mrs. Wilson or to encourage the family to expect improvement. The exact nature of her illness is not divulged.

FALLING TIDE FOR WILSON

Administration Weighed In Impartial Scales.

James Davenport Whelpley Writes For Literary Digest His Latest Impressions.

The fall elections will soon show what the country thinks of the Democratic administration. Some are saying that the Wilsonian defeat of Huerta and the rising tide of prosperity will bring a Democratic victory; others argue that the President's feverish haste in pushing his program thru Congress betrays a fear that he will soon have a hostile law-making body to deal with. Meanwhile, we have the judgment of a disinterested British observer who tries to tell his readers at home how the President stands after a year and a half of power. He has shown strength and wisdom, writes James Davenport Whelpley in The Fortnightly Review (London), but he has now "reached and passed the greatest height of his political power." Mr. Whelpley, a British Washington correspondent, thinks that this failure in influence was manifested by the manner in which the repeal of the Panama tolls discrimination was passed. President Wilson's betrayal of his inexperience in forming a program for Democratic legislation roused up enemies in his own political household, we are told. Of the result of the new Panama Toll's Bill on the President's prestige this writer says:

"There are striking indications that this victory in Congress marks the beginning of the decline of the political strength and popularity of President Wilson himself. He became President at a time when his party had just been out of power. He at once formed a legislative program which would have staggered a more experienced leader. With considerable sagacity and a realization of the shortness of the day in political life, he forced his program upon a party somewhat light-headed over victory and anxious to conserve the party strength by presenting a solid front to the Opposition. The period of light-headedness has gone, however, and the glamour of the new and unaccustomed has passed from over the vision of the Democratic floor leaders. President Wilson now finds critics within his own party, and partially successful rebellions against the autocratic control he has exercised for the past year are not infrequent. He has, in short, reached and passed the greatest height of his political power."

"To the political weather experts in Washington and elsewhere the barometer shows signs of falling, and if history repeats itself, the fall once begun, will accumulate momentum on its way. No longer has the President but to express his will and witness its immediate accomplishment. That he may have realized this would could be said to pass is not impossible, for no intelligent man who has studied political psychology as closely as President Wilson could fail to realize the inevitable escape in time of the party majority in Congress from his strict and forceful guiding hand. To use a homely expression, he has 'made hay while the sun shone,' and to give him the credit that should be his, he probably knew that to carry out even a large part of his political program he must use the old frontier-men used to say, 'go while the going is good.' He has accomplished much of what he started out to do, and has only been a year at it. It is a record of big achievement, for even if he has to fight harder in the future for what he gets and yield to a greater degree of compromise, he can but congratulate himself upon the distance already covered and accept the warning of his power with more or less philosophy."

The fight against the trusts is next dealt with by his well-informed journalist, who remarks:

"The Old World has long ago discovered that the greatest forces for the expansion of foreign trade are big industrial combinations commanding unlimited capital. The New World, now needing foreign trade nearly as much as the older nations is not divulged."

(Continued on Fourth page.)